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NAME U. S. Patent and Trademark Office  
COMPANY ATTN: Examiner P. Short  
ART UNIT 1712  
FAX NUMBER 703-872-9311

FROM Jacqueline M. Hutter  
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In re application of: )  
IRICK, JR. ET AL. ) Confirmation No.: 3021  
Serial No.: 09/662,965 ) Group Art Unit: 1712  
Filed: September 15, 2000 ) Examiner: Short, P.  
For: "METHODS FOR SLOWING THE DEGRADATION RATE OF BIODEGRADABLE POLYMERS AND  
BIODEGRADABLE POLYMER COMPOSITIONS AND COMPOSITIONS THEREOF"

Please acknowledge receipt of the following by return facsimile:

1. Preliminary Amendment (10 pages); and
2. Declaration Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.132 (4 pages).

CONFIDENTIALITY NOTE

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